

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 L-03 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15
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L/ARA:FARMSTRONG (DRAFT)
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R 192311Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: OAS, EINV

SUBJECT: TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES IN THE OAS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

1. ON JUNE 14 THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL REACHED A CONSENSUS
ON A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON TRANSNATIONAL ENTERPRISES (TNE) TO
BE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR APPROVAL. THE
DRAFT REFERS TO LATIN AMERICAN GUIDELINES FOR A CODE OF
CONDUCT RELATING TO TNE'S, AND US OBSERVATIONS ON THOSE
GUIDELINES DISAGREEING WITH SOME OF THEM, PARTICULARLY THE
CALVO DOCTRINE, ALL DATING BACK TO JANUARY 1975. THE DRAFT
STATES THAT BOTH SETS OF POSITIONS "CONTAIN VALUABLE ELE-
MENTS" FOR CONSIDERATION, AND URGES THE PERMANENT COUNCIL
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"TO CONTINUE ACTIVELY TO CONCERN ITSELF WITH THIS SUBJECT."

2. THE CONSENSUS WAS PAINFULLY REACHED AND IS VERY FRAGILE.
WE WOULD PREFER NO OAS RESOLUTION AT ALL ON THE SUBJECT.
THE US FAVORS A CODE OF CONDUCT, BUT WITH NEGOTIATIONS UNDER-
WAY IN THE UNITED NATIONS WE SEE NO ROLE FOR THE OAS, A
POSITION SHARED BY ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, MEXICO AND PROBABLY

OTHERS. TO JOIN IN A CONSENSUS RESOLUTION WE REQUIRE THAT OUR OBSERVATIONS RECEIVE EQUAL WEIGHT WITH THE LATIN GUIDELINES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT URGING THE PERMANENT COUNCIL "TO CONTINUE ACTIVELY TO CONCERN ITSELF" MEANS NO MORE THAN

THAT IT CONTINUE TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON THE PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE UN. BOLIVIA'S AMBASSADOR ORTIZ SANZ WAS THE FORCE BEHIND THE RESOLUTION, WHILE VENEZUELA'S AMBASSADOR MACHIN SHOULD BE CREDITED WITH CREATING A CONSENSUS. A WEEK EARLIER THE US VOTED AGAINST A DRAFT RESOLUTION GIVING THE LATIN GUIDELINES PREEMINENCE. WHILE WE WOULD HAVE BEEN CONTENT TO LEAVE IT AT THAT, MACHIN INSISTED ON FORGING A RESOLUTION WE CAN ALL ACCEPT.

3. WE DO NOT EXPECT FURTHER DEBATE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IF THERE IS AN ATTEMPT TO REOPEN THE DRAFT, THE CONSENSUS COULD EASILY COME APART. THIS CABLE IS FOR POSTS' INFO ONLY; NO ACTION IS REQUESTED. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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